

Message

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Subject: [EXTERNAL] EOCCG Update 16: Planned Truck Demonstration

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Good evening,

Today was a busy day for staff supporting the Ottawa Police Service and NCRCC. Several thousand people gathered in the downtown core, and the crowds were somewhat agitated, making for a more challenging operating environment. There were some reports from partner agencies of aggressive behaviour (e.g., protesters trying to swarm vehicles), and protesters removed the fencing around the National War Memorial. To ensure staff safety, enforcement activities by Bylaw and Regulatory Services were paused this afternoon.

On a positive note, at 1500 Bronson, all vehicles, portable toilets, tents, and debris left by the encampment have now been removed. In addition, City and contracted staff working for Roads Services were able to salt in most of parts of the downtown core today. They will return to the busier sections of the red zone between 2:00 and 6:00 am tomorrow, and have coordinated with NCRCC for security support.

The EOC and partners anticipate a busy evening. Crowds are still large in the downtown core and are congregating at various "party" sites: 1) Rideau & Sussex; 2) Metcalfe & Wellington; and 3) Metcalfe & Slater. For tomorrow, there are no known planned protest events. We may see some rolling convoys of either protesters or counter-protesters. Given that it will be Superbowl Sunday, it is unclear how many will congregate downtown beyond the determined core group who have dug in there. In addition, although there is an extreme cold warning for the Ottawa area, that kind of weather has not deterred protesters in the past.

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The EOC will continue to support Ottawa Police Service and the NCRCC. For Sunday, the EOC will also coordinate City service impacts and closures for Monday, based on the current threat assessment by security partners.

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My pronouns are he/him.

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